

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A catheter unit which guides a tube, which leads a radiation source used in intraluminal radiation therapy into a body cavity, into the body cavity, comprising:

5 a first catheter which has an insert section capable of being inserted into the body cavity, an elbow section attached to the distal end portion of the insert section and bendable, and a bending control section which bends the elbow section, and guides the tube; and

10 a second catheter attached to the first catheter, holding the insert section, said second catheter comprising at least one retaining portion which is to be opened and closed, and a control section which is configured to open and close the retaining portion to be anchored in the body cavity when opened by the control section.

15 2. A catheter unit according to claim 1, which further comprises an anchor section which removably anchors the first and second catheters to each other, with the second catheter fitted on the first catheter and the two catheters assembled in a predetermined position.

20 25 3. A catheter unit according to claim 1, which further comprises a hold section attached to the first catheter and designed to be held to support the

catheter unit.

4. A catheter unit according to claim 1, wherein the second catheter has an outer sheath and an inner sheath coupled to each other on the distal end side with respect to the retaining portion, and the retaining portion opens and closes as the outer sheath is slid relative to the inner sheath in the axial direction of the catheter.

5 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 45 50 55 60 65 70 75 80 85 90 95 100 105 110 115 120 125 130 135 140 145 150 155 160 165 170 175 180 185 190 195 200 205 210 215 220 225 230 235 240 245 250 255 260 265 270 275 280 285 290 295 300 305 310 315 320 325 330 335 340 345 350 355 360 365 370 375 380 385 390 395 400 405 410 415 420 425 430 435 440 445 450 455 460 465 470 475 480 485 490 495 500 505 510 515 520 525 530 535 540 545 550 555 560 565 570 575 580 585 590 595 600 605 610 615 620 625 630 635 640 645 650 655 660 665 670 675 680 685 690 695 700 705 710 715 720 725 730 735 740 745 750 755 760 765 770 775 780 785 790 795 800 805 810 815 820 825 830 835 840 845 850 855 860 865 870 875 880 885 890 895 900 905 910 915 920 925 930 935 940 945 950 955 960 965 970 975 980 985 990 995 1000 1005 1010 1015 1020 1025 1030 1035 1040 1045 1050 1055 1060 1065 1070 1075 1080 1085 1090 1095 1100 1105 1110 1115 1120 1125 1130 1135 1140 1145 1150 1155 1160 1165 1170 1175 1180 1185 1190 1195 1200 1205 1210 1215 1220 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portion being anchored in the body cavity when opened by the operation means.

7. A catheter unit according to claim 6, which further comprises anchor means for removably anchoring the first and second catheters to each other, with the second catheter fitted on the first catheter and the two catheters assembled in a predetermined position.

8. A catheter unit according to claim 6, which further comprises holding means attached to the first catheter and designed to be held to support the catheter unit.

9. A catheter unit according to claim 6, wherein the second catheter has an outer sheath and an inner sheath coupled to each other on the distal end side with respect to the retaining portion, and has opening/closing means for opening and closing the retaining portion as the outer sheath is slid relative to the inner sheath in the axial direction of the catheter.

10. A catheter unit according to claim 9, wherein the outer sheath has a plurality of slits cut in the axial direction of the first catheter so that regions between the slits define the retaining portion.

11. A method of guiding a tube, which leads a radiation source into a living body cavity, into the body cavity through a conduit of a catheter so that the radiation source administers radiation therapy to the

interior of the body cavity, comprising:

a step of setting a tube in the conduit of the catheter;

5 a step of inserting the catheter, having the tube set in the conduit thereof, into the living body cavity;

10 a step of inserting an endoscope into the body cavity and observing the position of the catheter and the state of insertion as the catheter is inserted into the body cavity; and

a step of opening a retaining portion of the catheter to reduce the eccentricity of the tube in the cavity and settle the position of detention of the catheter in the cavity.